THE FORTRESS

THE OFFICAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BARONY OF CAERTHE

UNTO THE POPULACE OF THE GREAT BARONY OF CAERTHE DO DOMENICO AND MARIA, BARON AND BARONESS DI CARETHE SEND GREETINGS!

The decade turns, we in Caerthe are looking forward to another great year! Their Majesties Bela and Nerissa, who both reside in Caerthe, sit on the Stag Throne bringing energy, excitement, and grace to our illustrious Kingdom. We are proud and humbled to be the home of another pair of magnanimous rulers.

Winter feasting season will continue with many great events in both north and south of our fair Kingdom. Caerthen Twelfth Night has passed but we encourage all who are interested in experiencing the culture of others and sharing the words of Caerthe to travel to these other groups, be it barony or shire. Following that, we will all have an opportunity to indulge in the arts with our Northern Outlands A&S Competition (formerly Tri-Baronial A&S) where the baronies of Caerthe, Caer Galen, and Unser Hafen will choose their new A&S Champion. There is also a request from Her Majesty for bids on a separate Queen's Prize event to be held during their reign. So please submit ideas!

This year is a most auspicious one for the barony as we are turning 50 years old! Being the first barony in the Kingdom and fifth in the Knowne World to achieve this age, We plan to celebrate accordingly. During this year, there will be many fun activities related 50th birthday. For martial folk there is the **500 Fights Challenge** where both heavy and rapier fighters are encouraged to cross blades with 50 of their peers at 10 fights each. For artisans, there is the **50 Piece Largesse Derby** to present a dozen items at 4 events over the course of the year. Also, please stand by for an archery and equestrian challenge as well.

All of this will build up to our 50th Year Celebration on Labor Day weekend in Caerthe. This will be a whole weekend of camping, fighting, arts, archery, and history. Please plan on attending and bring your friends to help us remember the good ol' days and celebrate the years to come!

We continue to hold Baronial Business Meetings on the first Monday of each month at the indoor fighter practice site. These meetings are open to all, and they are where we hear officer reports, event proposals, hold financial committee meetings and conduct other official business. Since our regular practice say has changed from Thursdays to Mondays, Collegi will now be held on the third Thursday of the month. We encourage everyone to attend these gatherings and participate in the life of our Society and Barony!

Ever in Service to the Dream,

Domenico e Maria

Barone e Baronessa di Caerthe

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BARONIAL OFFICERS

Arts & Sciences Minister:
Lady Arndis Knytír
art-sci@caerthe-sca.org

Aspen Pursuivant (Herald):
Lord Jarek af Wolin
herald@caerthe-sca.org

Captain of Archers:
Lord Dubhghaill Mac Gilla Easbaig
archery@caerthe-sca.org

Chatelaine (Gold Key):
Lord Morgan Kynnith
chatelaine@caerthe-sca.org

Chronicler/Deputy Chronicler:
Lord Khaliu Cessilus/ Lady Beatricia Barberini
chronicler@caerthe-sca.org

Equestrian Marshal:
Lady Marisse do Bourgogne
equestrian@caerthe-sca.org

Exchequer:
Master Logan of Logan
exchequer@caerthe-sca.org

Baronial Marshal:
Baron Estavon dela Vega
marshal@caerthe-sca.org

Minister of Lists:
Lady Arndis Knytír
lists@caerthe-sca.org

Quartermaster:
THL Angus Montgomery the Forrester
quartermaster@caerthe-sca.org

Rapier Marshal:
Don Tahir al-Razi
rapier@caerthe-sca.org

Scribe:
THL Lady Marion Forester
scribe@caerthe-sca.org

Seneschal:
Lady Elizabeth Winter
seneschal@caerthe-sca.org

Social Media Officer:
THL Pettronella Pártaszövõ
socialmedia@caerthe-sca.org

Webwright:
Graf Iohann der Fuchs (interim)
web@caerthe-sca.org

Youth Minister:
Lady Anneka of Hogland
youth@caerthe-sca.org

Baron and Baroness:
Lord Domenico Forestani & Lady Maria Castelana: excellencies@caerthe-sca.org

BARONY OF CAERTHE CHAMPIONS!

A&S Champion:	Mms. Arcadia de Medina	**Sword of Chivalry:**	Lord Tyler Farquad
Archery Warden:	THL Eirikr Morrison	**Premier Blade:**	Nova
Crossbow Warder:	Don Santiago Rodriguez de Cadiz	**Blade of Chivalry:**	Godric of Caerthe
Equestrian Champion:	Lady Kublai Ksenyia	**Cut & Thrust:**	Lady Elora Von Effyn
Thrown Weapons:	Master Jethro Stille		
Blackthorn Bard:	L. Otto of Cote du Ciel	**Warlord:**	Sir Davin Drakere

BARONIAL PROGRESS:	EVENTS CALENDAR:
1/4 – 1/5/2020 *12th Night & War Practice* Caerthe (D&M) **1/11/2020** *Viking Vinter Vunderlandt* Barony of Aarquelle **1/11/2020** *Plattefordham Candlemas* Shire of Plattefordham **1/18/2020** *Citadel Twelfth Night* Barony of the Citadel of the Southern Pass **1/25/2020** *Unser Hafen Yule* (D) **1/25/2020** *Dragonspine Candlemas* Barony of Dragonspine (D&M) **2/18 – 2/24/202** *Estrella War* Atenveldt **2/29/2020** *Northern Outlands A&S* Caerthe (D&M) **3/14-3/15/2020** *Crown Tourney* Fontaine (D&M) **5/2-5/3/2020** *Coronation* Aarquelle (D&M)	All Kingdom Events may be found here! https://www.outlands.org/events **Business Meetings:** **6:30pm – 8:30pm: 1st Monday of each Month** At Fighter Practice: 1205 East 8th Ave. Denver, CO Please check Facebook for location. https://www.facebook.com/caerthe.sca/ **Fighter Practice:** **6:00pm – 10:00pm: Monday** Corona Presbyterian Church 1205 East 8th Ave. Denver, CO **Archery Practice:** **9:00am-12:00pm: Sunday** Scout Park, 132 E 112th Pl, Northglenn **Indoor site:** Empty Quiver Archery, 7180 W. 117th Ave., Unit C, Broomfield **Hosted Gatherings –** **Guilds & Populace Social links:** Apothecary Guild https://tinyurl.com/caerthe-apothecary Caerthe Cavalry https://www.facebook.com/groups/CaertheCavalry Children's Guild https://tinyurl.com/caerthe-children-guild Cooks Guild https://tinyurl.com/caerthe-cooks-guild Jeweler's Guild https://www.facebook.com/groups/JewelersGuildofCaerthe Outlands Archery and Thrown Weapons https://tinyurl.com/outlands-archery Scribe's Guild https://tinyurl.com/caerthe-scribes-guild Scola Metallorum https://www.facebook.com/ScolaMetallorum/ Canton of Ravenhyrst https://www.facebook.com/ravenhyrst Canton of Hawks Hallow https://www.facebook.com/HawksHollowSCA

Baronial Report: The Baronial Scribe

GREETINGS FROM THE BARONIAL SCRIBE, MARION FORESTER!

I want to start out by thanking all the wonderful scribes who have contributed their artwork for scrolls this year. Your contributions are invaluable. Each scroll is a unique piece of art that is treasured. We have such a large group of scribes within the barony and some out of barony friends who have donated their art. I know the time, effort, and money you put into your craft and appreciate every one of you. We have such a large group of scribes within the barony and some out of barony friends who have donated their art.

If you would like to do a scroll in the coming year, please contact me at scribe@caerthe-sca.org, in person, or by Facebook to let me know you are interested. We have a year-long need for scrolls here and there, but big events like Twelfth Night and Battlemoor are times when we need a lot of award scrolls done. If you would like to make a blank scroll (one without a name or date on it with calligraphy, illumination or both) those are always welcome. It's wonderful to have an award pop up and know that we have it covered! Please remember that we welcome scrolls in all media whether paint and paper, leather, stone, wood, glass, or whatever!

We have regular scribal nights usually the fourth Wednesday of the month. I try to rotate between calligraphy, illumination, and a period technique or material each month. If you would like to learn something specific, please let me know and we can schedule someone to teach it.

Finally, all good things will come to an end. I have been honored to serve as the baronial scribe for a while and am planning for a day when I will hand the office to another person. To that end, I am looking for a deputy who would like to step up when I step down. The most important quality of a baronial scribe is organization. Duties include organizing award scroll assignments, making sure scrolls get to the baron and baroness at or before an event, and promoting scribal activities in the barony. Proficiency in illumination and/or calligraphy is great to have, but most important is organization and enthusiasm for the scribal arts.

Again, thank you to all the wonderful scribes in the barony and keep doing art!

Baronial Report: The Chronicler

GREETINGS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR, CAERTHE!

Your Fortress staff has some exciting announcements for the coming year!
First, The Fortress newsletter will be transitioning form being published bi-monthly, to being released quarterly. This will allow us to make a more impactful and impressive newsletter. We will still be seeking officer reports, meet the barony bios, articles, artwork, recipes, event flyers and menus just to name a few ideas. The deadline for these submissions will continue to be the 25th day of the month prior to publication. Therefore, all submissions for the April Fortress will be March 25, 2020 at 8pm. The complete schedule can be found on the back page of this newsletter.

Next, Beatricia would like to transition out of her role as the official Deputy Chronicler of The Fortress. She is enthusiastic about training a new member of the community in the art of digital typesetting in Word. We encourage those with a passion for design, publishing, and journalism to consider this opportunity. New ideas, new formatting, and new life for the Fortress is the goal. If interested in serving Caerthe in this fashion, please send a letter of intent to serve to Their Excellencies, the baronial seneschal, and the chronicler email address. Have questions? Please contact me and/or Bea.

In Service to Crown, Kingdom, and the Dream,

Lord Khaliu Cessilus
Chronicler, Barony of Caerthe

Baronial Report: The (Interim) Webminister

THE YAHOO GROUP IS DEAD.

As some of you may have already heard, Yahoo is no longer supporting email groups. I've spoken with the kingdom Westminster, Don Carlos, regarding the direction he would like to set and we have settled on Groups.io as a reasonable replacement.

The new baronial mailing list is:

https://groups.io/g/caerthe

- Post: caerthe@groups.io
- Subscribe: caerthe+subscribe@groups.io
- Unsubscribe: caerthe+unsubscribe@groups.io
- Group Owner: caerthe+owner@groups.io
- Help: caerthe+help@groups.io

This may yet change to facilitate better centralization and coordination of mailing list management. The loss of Yahoo Groups came as something of a surprise, but we are working to coordinate a replacement which has feature-parity and some improvements.

The mailing list is currently set up as a free account, which has some limitations including being unable to add members as an admin - anyone wishing to follow or post will have to subscribe. Membership is moderated, meaning an or a moderator must approve all subscriptions. Once subscribed, posts do not require moderation before being distributed. The group is listed publicly, but posts are only viewable by subscribers.

Please subscribe to the list if you would like to get communication in your email.

Please feel free to reach out if there are any questions.

In Service to the Dream,

Graf Iohann der Fuchs

Baronial Report: The Herald

BARONIAL AWARDS – CAERTHEN YULE & CAERTHEN 12TH NIGHT

Here are the awards that were given out at the latest two Caerthen events: Yule and 12th Night.

Order of Evan	*THL Isabelle de Calais*
Papers of Caerthe	*Lady Anneka Mikaelsdottir*
Gilded Leaf	*Lady Anneka Mikaelsdottir*
Aspen of Caerthe	*Lady Arndis Knytir*
Sable Destrier	*Lady Lisette de Troyes*
Sable Destrier	*Lord Stephan of Caerthe*
Black Glove	*Lord Sigeric Bildr*
Jubilant Pride	*Her Excellency Pvari Dalesdottir*
Jubilant Pride	*Mistress Morgan Rowenwaif*
Jubilant Pride	*Master Grellan O'Connor*
Pilgrim	*Lady Elizabeth Winter*
OoE - Hospitality	*Lady Isabella Richardi*
OoE - Hospitality	*THL Crestina da Brescia*
OoE - Ideals of Society	*Lady Maire Dooley* *Lord Louchlan du Hay*
Dreamer's Cup	*THL Marion Forester*
OoE - Integrity	*THL Reynhard von Reutte*
Papers of Caerthe	*Lord Khaliu Cessilus*
Aspen of Caerthe	*Lord Khaliu Cessilus*
Coronet's Smile	*Grace Dooley*

In Service to the Dream,

Don Santiago Rodriguez de Cadiz

Greetings unto the populace of Caerthe!

PHOTO CAPTION CONTEST:

Last month, we put out a challenge to the populace to come up with a great caption for this photo. Please see the winning caption below along with the other submissions we received. Thank you to all those who played! You are the ones who bring the fun to this barony!

Winner:

"You tell His Majesty that we've got Hannibal by his..."

Runners Up:

"It was just, so, big...The pear, Maria. The pear!"

Domenico: *talks with his hands and stares out into the distance* "How's this for a baron pose?"
Maria: "Too dramatic...oh wait, there's no such thing!"

"That's a lot of spicy meatballs..."

"UM DOMENICO, WERE WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THE INVASION OF ATENVELDT..."

"What do you mean the snow was delicious??!"

"They had...Vast trays of food."

Domenico & Maria

And It Was All Yellow:

Yellow Pigments in Medieval Painting

Yellow is one of the interesting colors of medieval pigments that fall into two categories: poisonous or a plant-based pigment that doesn't hold up when exposed to light. These colors form a wide palette of colors for the artist. Hues ranged from bright lemon yellow to green yellow to orange yellows.

Two yellow colors were derived from metals. The brilliant lemon yellow used in Celtic and many other medieval manuscripts was made from orpiment. Orpiment is a mineral which has a high concentration of arsenic. Closely related, realgar, is an orange arsenic mineral that was also used in manuscripts. Orpiment could not be used with lead white or other lead pigments, however, or the chemical reaction between the two would cause them to turn black. Due to the arsenic in orpiment, it is toxic.

More recently, scientists have used non-destructive methods to determine that some yellows used in manuscripts were lead-tin yellow. Lead-tin yellow was often referred to as massicot or giallorino in medieval pigment recipes. Lead-tin yellow has been used in painting since the thirteenth century. Again, though it produced lovely opaque sunny yellow paint, yellow-tin was also poisonous.

Many yellow pigments were plant dyes that were chemically combined with alum and a calcium carbonate like chalk, eggshell, or marble dust to create a lake pigment. These pigments produced a wide range of colors, but were not as lightfast as the mineral pigments and could be used in books that were not exposed to light often or they would degrade. Medieval treatises list recipes for using saffron, weld, turmeric, and buckthorn. Saffron produces a sunny yellow and could be used as a lake pigment or as a stain using nothing but the saffron threads and refined egg white called glair. Weld yields a greenish yellow. Turmeric and unripe buckthorn berries create an orange yellow. Buckthorn berries, when ripe, can create a green color commonly called sap green. While lake pigments can produce a wide variety of colors, they do not stand up as well to light as mineral pigments and they are more transparent than mineral pigments. Current scientific techniques are not usually able distinguish between one organic lake pigment and another with non-destructive means, so we don't know exactly which lake pigments were used in which manuscript. They best we can do at this moment is to make an educated guess using the medieval pigment recipes we have and the shade of yellow that we see.

I hope that when you see a medieval manuscript or painting you next ask yourself, "What yellow pigment did they use?"

By Marion Forester

MEET THE BARONY

The Barony of Caerthe is part of the Kingdom of the Outlands, in the Society for Creative Anachronism. The Barony encompasses the Denver, CO metro area and includes the Canton of Hawks Hallow in the north, the Canton of Ravenhyrst in the southeast and the College of Scola Scola Metallorum at the School of Mines.

MISSIVES FROM THEIR EXCELLENCIES

Her Excellency Maria has been publishing missives and post event write ups that include thanks to the event staff, photos, and much more. You can find the complete archive as well as new content at mcastelana.wordpress.com

SIR DAVIN AND LADY IULIANA

Photo by Duchess Cainnleach m.k.a. Marcy Riviezzo

How long you have lived in the Barony?
18 years

Where you're from originally?
Shire of Rio de las Animas

What are your favorite SCA activities? *Heavy fighting, singing, armoring, service in general - manual labor and through retinue.*

How did you get into the SCA? *I found the SCA through playing D&D. More interestingly, I found my career through the SCA. 16 years ago, friends told me that I should "figure out what I like and find a way to make that a job". I realized that I really enjoyed putting on armor and hitting things with an axe… firefighting seemed like a natural choice.*

How did you find your passion in the SCA? *When I was five, my father built me a shield. From that moment on, I wanted to don armor, take up a sword and do battle. I was 18 when I finally had the chance.*

Your best advice for newcomers: *Have fun, try everything, don't worry about severe authenticity right away. Find what you enjoy, and find those who can help you explore that!*

One thing you can't live with at events: *baby wipes. Especially at camping events.*

A funny story from your SCA travels:

I once, with my household singing backup, told the epic "The Ballad of Gilligan's Island" in a bardic competition…I didn't win.

Full SCA Name: *Iul'iannia Sverchkova* **| How long you have lived in the Barony:** *4 years*

Where you're from originally: *Calontir*
What are your favorite SCA activities? *events, and socializing, and illumination*

Anything we should know about your persona? *I've never really developed my persona beyond the fact that it's 1250 Run after the Mongol invasion so I can use the beautiful deep reds.*

How did you get into the SCA? *I fell in love with the way the people took care of each other.*

How did you find your passion in the SCA? *Mistress Bri took me to Pennsic Watch, put me behind the desk, told them that I used to run prisons and promptly left. It's been my thing ever since.*

Your best advice for newcomers: *Don't push yourself so hard to be the perfect SCAdian right off. Enjoy your first bed sheet tunic and don't fuss over your non-period chairs. The particulars will come! Make friends, enjoy the campfires: the things that will hold you into your twilight years. Nobody's eyes sparkle over a perfect outfit half as much the true bonded friendships you will develop here!*

One thing you can't live with at events: *Can't live with: bullies (I turn them into soup)!*
Can't live without: *my mug!*

A funny story from your SCA travels:

Not a funny story but my first and most profound. There once was this old run-down stucco house. In it lived a lady of undetermined years. If you thought you could tell how old she was you would be wrong. You see, this lady had a myriad of factors working against her: mental health and alcohol being the most significant. She was on disability, so came and went from her home as she saw fit. However, it was fairly regular that she would leave once every couple of days. The neighbors knew every time she left because her old car was would take several attempts to start and finally rev into life with the push of a gas pedal.

One day a neighbor sat up and mentioned that they hadn't heard her car in a while and eventually decided to call the police for a welfare check. After several attempts to rouse the lady to the door, they entered the home to find that the lady had, in fact, passed on. The police searched the house to find, hidden deep in the house a 16-year-old boy. This boy was extremely agitated at seeing the police and went into a panic. Psychologist, social workers, and child protective services were brought in and it was determined that the boy had never been outside the house. He could speak but had never spoke to anyone except his mother. No school, no medical, no dental. Naturally the boy went into assisted living where his case manager told him he needed to find hobbies.

He chose the SCA. He was welcomed and looked after. Although he wasn't allowed to go camping, he was content with events and meetings. They let him choose his own name, so he chose Troll due to his extreme under-bite. One day he was at A&S and a lady walked in who he thought had a nice person's face. He walked up to her and told her exactly that and he can always tell the difference. He then told her his story. Before he was done, she was in love with the SCA. He had totally forgot to introduce himself, "I'm so sorry, my name is Troll. Please tell me if I do something wrong, I'm still learning." She looked back at him, knowing she was home, "Hi, Troll. My name is Cricket."

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS:

All submissions to the Fortress must be received no later than 8:00pm on the 25th day of the month prior to publication of the newsletter. Publications will occur in January, April, June, October of 2020.

Content submitted to the Fortress must be accompanied by the proper release forms.

For further information, questions, and concerns, please contact the baronial chronicler at chronicler@caerthe-sca.org

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